

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An instant lottery game system which includes:

a game play defining element;

a symbol display zone carried on the game play defining element, the symbol display zone containing a plurality of symbols providing a spinning reel game outcome;

a symbol interpretation zone carried on the game play defining element;

a masking medium covering the symbols of the symbol display zone and the symbol interpretation zone prior to game play; and

wherein when the plurality of symbols in the symbol display zone are revealed, the game outcome of the instant lottery game is still unknown; and the symbol interpretation zone is carried on the game play defining element,

wherein the symbol interpretation zone carrying carries a plurality of indicia used in interpreting representing one or more operators that apply to at least one of said plurality of symbols, of said spinning reel the indicia used in interpreting said plurality of symbols to thereby determine the game outcome revealed in the symbol display zone after removal of the masking medium to determine and a prize [[for]] associated with said game outcome.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 and further comprising a prize indicating zone being carried on the game play defining element.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 in which the prize indicating zone includes a payable and a range of prizes which a player can possibly win in playing a game carried by the game play defining element.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said game play defining element is a scratch-type card.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, and wherein the game play defining

element is in the form of a carrier on which the symbol display zone, the symbol interpretation zone and the prize indicating zone are carried.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said game play defining element is implemented in an electronic format to be played on an electronic device.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 in which the game play defining element is a representation of a card displayed on a screen of the electronic device.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7 in which the masking medium is a virtual covering layer that is removed by a player operating predetermined controls of the electronic device.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which recourse to the symbol interpretation zone is required to determine what prize, if any, has been won and revealing of the symbols on their own does not indicate to the player what prize, if any, has been won.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said masking medium comprises first and second masks, and wherein said first mask covering said symbol display zone, and wherein said second mask covering said [[the]] symbol interpretation zone.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which the symbols are representative of symbols of a spinning reel-type game, the symbols being carried on representations of reels defined in the symbol display zone.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 in which the indicia of the symbol interpretation zone include operators related to spinning reel-type game operations.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 in which the operators vary the prize awarded to a player so that, until the symbol interpretation zone has been referenced by the player, the player will not know what prize or prizes, if any, the player will receive.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said masking medium comprises first mask, and wherein the game play defining element includes a special feature zone related to a special feature, the special feature zone, prior to game play, being covered by a second mask.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 and wherein the player obtains access to the special feature zone only if a special feature indicium is revealed in the symbol interpretation zone, the player removing the masking medium of the special feature zone to determine what special feature prize has been won.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12 in which, if the spinning reel-type game has fixed pay type operators, headings associated with those operators are not covered by the masking medium with only specific operators applicable to that specific game being covered by the masking medium.

17. (Original) The system of claim 12 in which the indicia of the symbol interpretation zone are directly related to the prizes awarded rather than the symbols of the symbol display zone.

18. (Currently Amended) An instant lottery game device which includes:

a game play defining element;

a symbol display zone carried on the game play defining element, the symbol display zone containing a plurality of symbols providing a spinning reel game outcome;

a symbol interpretation zone carried on the game play defining element;

a masking medium covering the symbols of the symbol display zone and the symbol interpretation zone prior to game play; and

wherein when the plurality of symbols in the symbol display zone are revealed, the game outcome of the instant lottery game is still unknown; and the symbol interpretation zone is carried on the game play defining element;

wherein the symbol interpretation zone ~~carrying~~ carries a plurality of indicia ~~used in interpreting representing one or more operators that apply to at least one of said plurality of symbols, of said spinning reel~~ the indicia used in interpreting said plurality of symbols to thereby determine the game outcome revealed in the symbol display zone after removal of the masking medium to determine and a prize ~~[[for]]~~ associated with said game outcome.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18 and further comprising a prize indicating zone being carried on the game play defining element.

20. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 19 in which the prize indicating zone includes a payable and a range of prizes which a player can possibly win in playing a game carried by the game play defining element.

21. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, and wherein the game play defining element is in the form of a carrier on which the symbol display zone, the symbol interpretation zone and the prize indicating zone are carried.

22. (Original) The device of claim 18 in which recourse to the symbol interpretation zone is required to determine what prize, if any, has been won and revealing of the symbols on their own does not indicate to the player what prize, if any, has been won.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 18, wherein said masking medium comprises first and second masks, and wherein said first mask covering said symbol display zone, and wherein said second mask covering said ~~[[the]]~~ symbol interpretation zone.

24. (Original) The device of claim 18 in which the symbols are representative of symbols of a spinning reel-type game, the symbols being carried on representations of reels defined in the symbol display zone.

25. (Original) The device of claim 24 in which the indicia of the symbol interpretation zone include operators related to spinning reel-type game operations.

26. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25 in which the operators vary the prize awarded to a player so that, until the symbol interpretation zone has been referenced by the player, the player will not know what prize or prizes, if any, the player will receive.

27. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein said masking medium comprises first mask, and wherein the game play defining element includes a special feature zone related to a special feature, the special feature zone, prior to game play, being covered by a second mask.

28. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 27, and wherein the player obtains access to the special feature zone only if a special feature indicium is revealed in the symbol interpretation zone, the player removing the masking medium of the special feature zone to determine what special feature prize has been won.

29. (Original) The device of claim 25 in which, if the spinning reel-type game has fixed pay type operators, headings associated with those operators are not covered by the masking medium with only specific operators applicable to that specific game being covered by the masking medium.

30. (Original) The device of claim 25 in which the indicia of the symbol interpretation zone are directly related to the prizes awarded rather than the symbols of the symbol display zone.